

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 10, 1976
(SALT TWO-903)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 1976.

QUOTE
SEmenov Statement, FEBRUARY 10, 1976

I

THE DELEGATIONS HAD EXCHANGED VIEWS ON DRAFTING LANGUAGE FOR LIMITATIONS ON INCREASING, IN THE PROCESS OF MODERNIZATION AND REPLACEMENT, THE ORIGINAL VOLUME OF ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS, AND ALSO FOR DELIMITATION OF LIGHT AND HEAVY ICBMs BOTH BY LAUNCHING WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT OF MISSILES.

WE NOTE THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION IN ITS STATEMENT AT THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 1976 EXPRESSED ITS READINESS TO AGREE WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL ON ARTICLE IV, PAR. 4,

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TABLED BY THE SOVIET SIDE ON FEBRUARY 3, 1976, AND WITH THE

COMMON UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING THE MEANING OF THE WORD "ORIGINAL"
AS USED IN THAT ARTICLE.

IN VIEW OF THIS STATEMENT, THE USSR DELEGATION IS READY
TO AGREE WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL OF JANUARY
30, 1976 ON THE DEFINITION OF HEAVY ICBMS IN CONNECTION WITH
ARTICLE II, PAR. 7, OF THE DRAFT BEING PREPARED.

IN THIS CONNECTION, WE DRAW ATTENTION ONCE AGAIN TO THE
USSR DELEGATION'S STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1976 CONCERNING
THE NEED TO RETAIN IN THE NEW AGREEMENT THE CONCEPTS OF LIGHT
AND HEAVY ICBMS, WHICH THE SIDES HAVE ADOPTED; THIS IS
CONSISTENT WITH THE AIDE-MEMOIRE
OF DECEMBER 10, 1974 AND THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT SOVIET-
AMERICAN NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW.

WE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO REFER THESE PROPOSALS TO THE
DRAFTING WORKING GROUP. WE PROCEED FROM THE PREMISE THAT
AGREEMENT ON MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE WORDING WOULD BE OF GREAT
IMPORTANCE FROM THE STANDPOINT OF PROGRESS IN OUR WORK.

II

THE SOVIET SIDE HAS GIVEN SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE QUESTION
OF HOW TO EMBODY IN THE DRAFT BEING PREARED THE PROVISION ON
FOLLOW-ON NEGOTIATIONS ON FURTHER LIMITATIONS AND POSSIBLE
REDUCTIONS OF STRATEGIC ARMS, AGREED UPON AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL
AND RECORDED IN THE AIDE-MEMORIE OF DECEMBER 10, 1974.

IN THE INTERESTS OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON A MUTUALLY
ACCEPTABLE BASIS ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW LONG-TERM AGREEMENT
ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS AND OF ENSURING
PROGRESS IN THIS WORK, THE DELEGATION IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM
THE USSR GOVERNMENT TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL FOR ARTICLE
XV OF THE DRAFT.

" ARTICLE XV

THE PARTIES UNDERTAKE TO BEGIN IN 1977, AFTER ENTRY INTO
FORCE OF THIS AGREEMENT, ACTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OBJECTIVE
OF ACHIEVING, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AGREEMENT ON FURTHER MEASURES OF
LIMITATION AND POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF STRATEGIC ARMS.

IT IS ALSO THE OBJECTIVE OF THE PARTIES TO CONCLUDE IN ADVANCE
OF 1985 AN AGREEMENT LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS TO REPLACE
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THIS AGREEMENT UPON ITS EXPIRATION."

INCLUSION OF THE ABOVE PROVISIONS IN THE AGREEMENT BEING
WORKED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS MAJOR CONSTRUCTIVE STEP OF
THE SOVIET UNION WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY CONFIRM IN INTERNATIONAL LAW
FORMAT THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE USSR AND THE U.S. TO CONTINUE ON
THE COURSE TOWARD FURTHER LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS,
PREVENTING NUCLEAR WAR AND STRENGTHENING WORLD PEACE AND
SECURITY.

IN THIS CONNECTION THE USSR DELEGATION MOST DEFINITELY REAFFIRMS ITS STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT AT THE NEGOTIATIONS SPECIFIED IN ARTICLE XV THE SOVIET SIDE WILL ALSO RAISE THE QUESTIONS OF FORWARD-BASED NUCLEAR SYSTEMS AND THE EXISTENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THIRD COUNTRIES.

(THE PROCEEDING PARAGRAPH WAS NOT READ AT THE PLENARY MEETING, NOR WAS IT IN THE ORIGINAL TEXT HANDED OVER. AFTER THE MEETING CHULITSKY DELIVERED REVISED TEXT OF STATEMENT, CONTAINING THAT PARAGRAPH.)

THE SOVIET SIDE PROCEEDS FROM THE PREMISE THAT THIS INITIATIVE WILL FACILITATE PROGRESS IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON OTHER ISSUES OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AS WELL.

III

MR. AMBASSADOR,
DURING THEIR WORK PRIOR TO THE RECESS THE DELEGATIONS
DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE STANDING
CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW AGREEMENT.

AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSIONS HELD THERE IS MUTUAL
UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING ASSIGNING TO THE SCC UNDER ARTICLE
XVII, PAR. 2, OF THE DRAFT SUCH IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS AS:
TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS CONCERNING COMPLIANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS
ASSUMED AND RELATED SITUATIONS WHICH MAY BE CONSIDERED AMBIGUOUS;
TO PROVIDE ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS SUCH INFORMATION AS EITHER SIDE
CONSIDERS NECESSARY TO ASSURE CONFIDENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED; TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS INVOLVING UNINTENDED
INTERFERENCE WITH NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION;
TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THE STRATEGIC SITUATION,
WHICH HAVE A BEARING ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT;
TO AGREE UPON PROCEDURES AND DATES FOR DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION
OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS IN CASES PROVIDED FOR BY THE PROVISIONS
OF THE AGREEMENT; TO CONSIDER, AS APPROPRIATE, POSSIBLE

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PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE VIABILITY OF THE AGREEMENT.
THE PROVISION TO CONSIDER, AS APPROPRIATE, PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER
MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS IS CLOSE TO BEING
AGREED UPON.

IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS PRIOR TO THE WORKING
RECESS THE SOVIET SIDE, PROCEEDING FROM THE INTERESTS OF REACHING
AGREEMENT UPON THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT, TABLED CONSTRUCTIVE
PROPOSALS ON A NUMBER OF PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XVII, PAR. 2.
IN PARTICULAR, THIS CONCERNS SUCH A MATTER AS THE SIDES', WITHIN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SCC, DIRECTING INQUIRIES AS APPROPRIATE
AND PROVIDING INFORMATION ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS, INCLUDING
BY WAY OF REPLY TO THESE INQUIRIES, THAT EITHER SIDE CONSIDERS
NECESSARY TO ASSURE CONFIDENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS
ASSUMED. ADOPTION OF THIS PROPOSAL WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO SUCESSFUL

ACCOMPLISHMENT BY THE SCC OF THE TASK OF ASSURING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE SIDES IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS BEING ASSUMED UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT. THE SIDES ALSO HAVE IN THEIR FIELD OF VISION THE SOVIET PROPOSAL ON AGREEING UPON PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS FROM THE AGGREGATE NUMBERS WHEN THEY OTHERWISE CEASE TO BE SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN THE NEW AGREEMENT.

THE ENTIRE COMPLEX OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SCC WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW AGREEMENT HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY ANALYZED BY THE SOVIET SIDE DURING THE WORKING RECESS.

IN THIS CONNECTION WE WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR ARTICLE XVII, PAR. 2, ARE IN STRICT CONFIRMITY WITH THE AGREED PRINCIPLE OF VERIFICATION BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS AS WELL AS WITH SUCH IMPORTANT PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT AS THE RIGHT TO MODERNIZATION AND REPLACEMENT AND TO DETERMINATION OF THE COMPOSITION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF ESTABLISHED LIMITATIONS.

THESE PROPOSALS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AGREED PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XVII, PAR 2, AS WELL AS WITH THE RELEVANT OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT, ENSURE EFFECTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENT BY THE SCC OF THOSE TASKS WHICH THIS COMMISSION WILL HAVE TO CARRY OUT IN CONNECTION WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW AGREEMENT.

WE PROCEED FROM THE PREMISE THAT ALL NECESSARY CONDITIONS EXIST FOR REACHING FULL AGREEMENT ON ARTICLE XVII, PAR 2, ON THE BASIS OF SUCH A SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION CONCERNING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SCC.

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